

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8464

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 4195

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) VE

SUBJECT: SECVISIT: SCENARIO FOR WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT  
NATIONAL PANTHEON, ASSUMING CEREMONY TAKES  
PLACE APRIL 27

1. 1030 - A MEMBER OF THE U.S. MARINE GUARD ARRIVES AT PANTHEON  
WITH NCOIC SOMMERS AND THE WREATH. THEY PRE-POSITION THE WREATH.

1130 - SERVICE ATTACHES WILLIAMS, CLARE AND ROACH ARRIVE  
AT PANTHEON AND AWAIT ARRIVAL OF THE SECRETARY'S PARTY.

1200 - SECRETARY'S PARTY ARRIVES WITH THE CARS IN THE  
FOLLOWING ORDER: CAR ARRANGEMENTS BY SEPTTEL.

A. THE SECRETARY, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND THE OTHERS  
WILL LEAVE THEIR CARS AND PROCEED UP THE STEPS TO THE ENTRANCE  
OF THE PANTHEON IN LOOSE OR INFORMAL ORDER (NOT MARCH ORDER)  
OF RANK AS SET OUT BELOW.

B. AT THE DOOR OF THE PANTHEON THE PARTY WILL BE MET BY  
CURATOR SANTAELLA OF THE NATIONAL PANTHEON.

C. THE GROUP PROCEEDS THROUGH THE DOOR AND DOWN THE  
LENGTH OF THE PANTHEON TO THE SARCOPHAGUS (IN WHAT WAS ONCE THE  
ALTAR AREA). IN THE FIRST ROW, THE SECRETARY IS THE SECOND  
FROM THE RIGHT WITH THE VENEZUELAN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL ON HIS  
RIGHT, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS, SPECIAL ASSISTANT  
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ANDERSON, AND CHARGE ASECIO ON HIS LEFT. IN THE SECOND ROW

ARE, FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, COUNSELOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS HIGGINS, ECONOMIC COUNSELOR MILLS, DEFENSE ATTACHE WILLIAMS, NAVY ATTACHE CLARE, AND ARMY ATTACHE ROACH.

D. WHEN THE PARTY IS IN POSITION INSIDE THE RAILING (FORMER ALTAR), (DIAGRAM WILL BE MAILED TO BRASILIA), BEFORE THE SARCOPHAGUS, THE CURATOR WILL INVITE THE SECRETARY TO PLACE THE WREATH (WHICH IS IN A READY POSITION ON THE RIGHT OF THE SARCOPHAGUS) WITH THE INSCRIPTION "FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA" (IN SPANISH).

E. WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CHARGE THE SECRETARY MOVES THE WREATH TO THE FRONT OF THE SARCOPHAGUS AND RETURNS TO POSITION.

F. EVERYONE REMAINS IN POSITION AND OBSERVES ONE MINUTE OF SILENCE. THE CARILLON PLAYS THE U.S. NATIONAL ANTHEM.

G. FOLLOWING THE ANTHEM, THE SECRETARY TURNS ABOUT TO FACE THE EXIT AND PROCEEDS TO HIS LEFT TO SIGN THE GUEST BOOK WHICH IS ON A STAND TO THE LEFT OF THE EXIT.

H. TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF TELEVISION AND NEWS PHOTOGRAPHS, THE SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY HAVE BEEN REQUESTED, FOLLOWING THE BOOK SIGNING, TO TAKE POSITIONS WITH THEIR BACKS TO THE SARCOPHAGUS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE WREATH WHICH WILL BE IN POSITION IN FRONT OF THE SARCOPHAGUS. A PROTOCOL REPRESENTATIVE WILL INDICATE THE POSITION FOR THE SECRETARY AND EACH MEMBER OF HIS PARTY. THE SECRETARY WILL BE TO THE RIGHT OF THE WREATH AS HE FACES THE DOOR TO THE PANTHEON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS TO THE LEFT, SPECIAL ASSISTANT ANDERSON TO THE RIGHT, ETC. THE SECOND LINE OF THE SECRETARY'S PARTY WILL BE SIMILARLY PLACED.

I. WHEN PHOTOGRAPHS HAVE BEEN TAKEN, THE CURATOR WILL TAKE THE SECRETARY ON A SHORT TOUR AROUND THE INTERIOR OF THE PANTHEON AND EXPLAIN TO THE SECRETARY THE VARIOUS MONUMENTS IN EVIDENCE.

J. ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE TOUR THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE CEREMONY WILL BOW THEIR HEADS SLIGHTLY TOWARD THE

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SARCOPHAGUS AND RETIRE FROM THE PANTHEON IN THE SAME ORDER IN WHICH THEY ENTERED.

1215 - SECRETARY'S PARTY DEPARTS NATIONAL PANTHEON FOR TAMANACO HOTEL.  
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